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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Shigekazu SHUKU et al.

Serial Number: 10/067,918

Filed: February 8, 2002

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Group Art Unit: 1774

Examiner: B. H. Hess

For: HEAT-SENSITIVE RECORDING MATERIAL AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION
OF THE SAME

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND
ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 15, 2003

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated
September 16, 2003.

The Action includes restriction and election of species
requirement. Restriction is required between:

- (I) Claims 1-11, directed to articles classified in class
503, subclass 200; and
- (II) Claims 12-16, directed to processes, classified in class
503, subclass 235.

Applicants elect the subject matter of group (I), claims 1-11 for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse with the understanding that the applicants' rights under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and 121 to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter are retained.

An election of species is also required between:

(A) a support, a heat-sensitive recording layer and a protective layer;

(B) a support, a heat-sensitive recording layer, an adhesive layer and a protective layer;

(C) a support, an adhesive layer, a heat-sensitive recording layer and a protective layer;

(D) a support, a heat-sensitive recording layer, an intermediate layer and a protective layer;

(E) a support, a heat-sensitive recording layer, an intermediate layer, an adhesive layer and a protective layer; or

(F) a support, an adhesive layer, an intermediate layer, a heat-sensitive recording layer and a protective layer.

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Applicants elect Group (F) as the species. Claims 1-11 read on the elected species.

The election of species requirement is not traversed.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Office Action dated September 16, 2003, and is believed to place this application in condition for allowance. If, however, minor issues remain that can be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 111833.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK



Keiko Tanaka Kubovcik
Reg. No. 40,482

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